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Dear Legislative Committee Members:

I have relied very heavily on naturopathic medicine which I have received from multiple sources over my life span. Most recently from the Naturopathic Clinic at University of Bridgeport which is very affordable for everyone. They give people a huge discount on a sliding scale fee basis. They also have their own apothecary. I would not otherwise be able to afford the naturopathic care that I am receiving. The care is of a very high quality. I fear with the all the pharmaceutical companies and their power, money and influence would like it if human beings didn't use any natural medicine at all. What a shame. What do you think people did since the beginning of time. There was no Pfizer or merck pharmaceutical. Also, it is a shame what some of these companies are charging for chemotherapy. Some chemotherapies help people and others don't. My mother was told after she received a terminal dx of liver cancer that there were therapies available if she wanted to pursue them. It just killed her and her quality of life. She felt sicker and sicker. What they said would be "minor side effects" burnt this inside of her mouth, it was so painful she couldn't eat or drink anything and she was miserable.

In any event, I have found naturopathic care invaluable and it would be wrong to discourage this kind of medicine from being available, In stead, the government should be funding research into naturopathic care and remedies because all conventional medicines have side effects and then you are on a roller coaster of medicines for the side effects.

Diet, nutrition, foods that are not prepackaged and filled with additives and healthy living is the way to stay healthy. We need to be teaching classes in elementary schools on proper nutrition, growing fresh fruits and veggies, having community gardens to help one another. That's part of the problem with inner cities. NO one feels the connection to one another and to the earth. They are so far removed from growing their own food. There is no connection to the natural rhythm of life.

Please allow this natural rhythm and science and mystery of natural medicine to continue.

The founders of this country would want that.

Sincerely and Respectfully,

Christina Welte-Lake